



Regional Service Council Minutes Region 3

Meeting Date: July 20, 2015
Meeting Location: Joy Rose Center
1000 W. Hively Avenue
Elkhart, IN

Council Members Present: Jamie Pippin, Regional Manager DCS; Michael Carroll, Director Marshall County DCS; Tony Sommer, Director Elkhart County DCS; Erin Shidler, Director Kosciusko DCS; Amanda Herendeen, Kosciusko DCS; Teresa Zornig, Director St. Joseph County DCS; Bill Horton, Division Manager St. Joseph County DCS.

Council Members Absent: Judge David Cates, Kosciusko County Superior Court; Judge Curtis Palmer; Joe Wine, Foster Parent; Magistrate Deborah Domine; Don Phillips, Bashor; James Pheilbush; Janet Bohner, Elkhart Probation.

Others In Attendance: Joni Tusing, DCS; Rachel Tobin-Smith, SCAN; Paige Hamilton, SCAN; Janet Rathberger, DCS; Dion Smith, Regional Service Coordinator; Libby Martin, LSSI; Becky Loth, Lifeline; Amy Prosser, Lifeline; Pat Hancock, Center for Positive Change; Tai Crayton, Whites Residential; Shotunus Peterson, YSB; Shelly Overgaard, YSB; Barb Vernon, CAPS; Jennifer Diaz, IFCS; Amy Rosen, Oaklawn; Anna Carter, Safy; Lisa Zakowski, CAPS; Judie Jones, CAPS; Sean McCrindle, Bashor; Adrienne Batteast, Lifeline.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 10:03a.m. by Jamie Pippin.

1. Welcome/Introductions of Members and Guests.
 2. Approval of Minutes. Minutes of 04-20-15 reviewed. Erin Shidler motioned approval of the minutes. Michael Carroll seconded. Vote taken. All in favor. 0 Opposed. Motion carried.
 3. Community Partners Update. Rachel Tobin-Smith reported on fiscal year end 2015. Numbers are solid; all billings are in 1.8 million spent. All flex funding spent. Year end statistics; 854 enrollments, 1022 families with a total of 4,105 men, woman and children served. Outcomes outstanding within 5 days at 90%, engagement up 5%, goal achievement up 14%, improved HFPI up 8%, improved NCFAS up 11%. This program is doing good work, and seeing improvements in families. Changes are coming and are moving towards protective factors. More outreach scheduled with the school systems in August. Child Abuse Statistics from 7/1/14 – 6/30/15 reviewed; 96.4% stayed out of the system, 0.55% better than the State comparable from last year. We are doing better than the rest of the State. Statistics reviewed since the beginning of the program (2006) overall at 94.76% which is 3.25% better than the State comparable. These statistics are done by an outside agency. Prevention Dollars spent down to the dime, \$785,022. Outcomes should be available at the next meeting.
- Q. Outcomes clarification - Eight or more visits regardless of who made the referral, any referral source. Looking back one year from the time of eight visits no matter where the referral came from. From the start of the program, looking back 12 months for instances of substantiated abuse, neglect or both. Goal is 90%; in all of these categories Region 3 is better than the goal.

4. Service Update. Dion Smith, Regional Service Coordinator, reported that contacts are live effective 7/1/15. Please let Dion know if your staff is having any problems. Redwood Toxicology took over random drug screening. Oaklawn is contracted with Redwood for drug screening, experience has been fairly confusing and they are still working out the details. Questions or issues with Redwood contact Dion. Service Mapping is live which will help with comprehensive services. You may start seeing referrals from the Service Mapping Portal that may look a little different.

4. Regional Budget Update. Joni Tusing, Regional Financial Manager, reported on the full fiscal year. Region 3 spent 36.6 million; 20.6 million for Child Welfare and 16 million spent on Probation. 35.8 million spent once repayments are factored in, budgeted 35.1 million. Comparisons reviewed; for Child Welfare the increase was seen in Preservation Services. Jamie added that this is what we have been seeing all year. We have decreased the amount spent on care of wards in foster homes and institutions, and increased the amount spent on providers educating parents on keeping kids safe and staying out of our system. Probation had a slight increase in Care of Wards in Institutions; this could be because of rate increases. The new budget format will be reviewed once we start using it.

5. County Updates.

Elkhart – Tony Sommer, Director, fill one Clerical Legal Clerk that started last week, in the process of filling the Legal Attorney, they have finished with interviews. Gearing up for school starting

Kosciusko – Erin Shidler, Director, investigations are high, have hired one new FCM starting on 27th, CHINS cases are higher than they have ever seen.

Marshall – Michael Carroll, Director, four FCMs in training right now so they have a lot of mentoring and transfer of learning, also have seen an increase in CHINS cases and IA's. New attorney starting, it's all about staff right now.

St. Joseph – Teresa Zornig, Director we have two new FCMs starting in July/August. One clerical vacancy, we had a long time clerical, Gloria Maples, passed away. County has a new fax number.

Regional – Jamie Pippin, Regional Manager, number of new laws enacted; Prudent Parenting and Human Trafficking. We are figuring out how they will impact DCS and Probation. New Family Case Managers hired, 100 Statewide, we have double filled a lot of positions.

Terri Zornig motioned to adjourn. Tony Sommer seconded. Meeting adjourned 10:34 a.m.

Next RSC meeting is Monday October 19th, 10:00a.m., at the Juvenile Justice Center, 1000 S. Michigan St, South Bend, IN.